VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH DIVISION OF VITAL RECORDS

ELECTRONIC DEATH REGISTRATION SYSTEM (EDRS) USER

MANUAL FOR

THE OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER (OCME)

&

LOCAL MEDICAL EXAMINERS

Contents

1.	. (GET	TING	TING INTO THE EDRS2					
2.		ТНЕ	BASI	CS	4				
	2.1	. •	THE	NAVIGATION BAR	4				
	2.2	·.	SETT	TING USER PREFERENCES –	5				
3.	. I	НО١	w to	CREATE A CASE?	6				
	3.1		BEG	IN CREATION	6				
	3.2		PLAC	CE OF DEATH. –	9				
	3.3	١.	DETI	ERMINATION OF DEATH	12				
	3.4		CAU	SE OF DEATH	13				
	3	3.4.	1.	VIEWS (CDC) CAUSE OF DEATH VALIDATION	14				
	3	3.4.	2.	OTHER FACTORS	15				
4	. 1	REC	QUEST	ING MEDICAL CERTIFICATION	17				
5.	. [MEI	DICAL	CERTIFICATION (DIGITAL SIGNATURE)	18				
	5.1		ACC	EPTING A CASE	18				
	5.2		DIGI	TAL SIGNATURES	20				
6	. /	٩SS	IGNIN	IG A CASE TO A FUNERAL HOME	21				
7.	. 1	REL	EASE	DECEDENT	23				
8	. [DRC	OP TO	PAPER	25				
9	. [E-AI	MEND	DMENTS	26				
1	0.	С	REMA	ATION APPROVAL	31				
1	1.	С	REMA	ATION RECONCILIATION	33				
1	2.	0	СМЕ	REFERRALS	35				
1	3	1.0	ΟΟΔΙ	MEDICAL EXAMINERS	37				

1. GETTING INTO THE EDRS

STEP 1.

Once you have launched the EDRS using the URL provided to you, you will see a pop-up box to enter your username and password to log in to the application. (See illustration below)



Enter your username and password and click OK.

STEP 2.

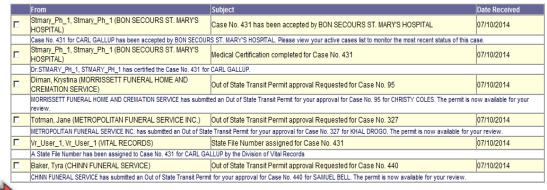
You may view your messages in the inbox displayed on the resulting screen. Click continue to navigate to the next screen.





Virginia Vital Events And Screening Tracking System

New Messages
Please check the box to acknowledge each message and click Continue button to continue to the application

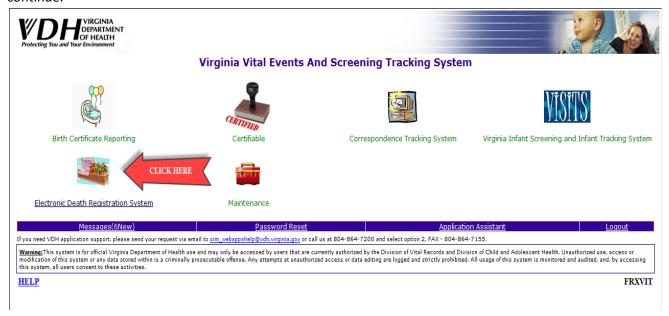


CLICK HERE ontinue

<u>HELP</u> EBLNML

STEP 3.

The resulting screen is the Virginia Vital Events and Screenings Tracking System Screen and may include various modules. Based on your role, you will only have access to the EDRS. Click on the EDRS link to continue.



The resulting screen is the EDRS Home screen.



2. THE BASICS

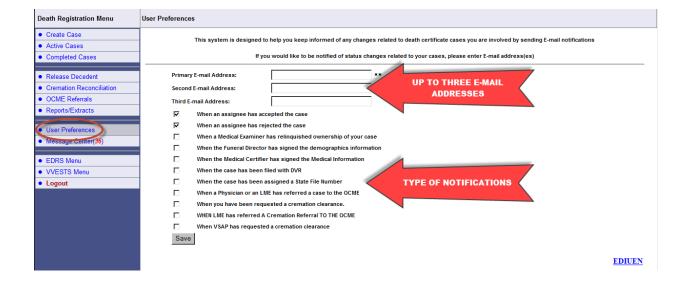
2.1. THE NAVIGATION BAR -

To the left of the screen is the Navigation Bar which houses various links allowing you to move around in the system. This Navigation Bar is very dynamic in nature and will change from user to user based on what roles a user has. (The illustration below depicts a typical navigation bar in the home screen for a MLDI.)

Death Registration Menu							
Create Case							
Active Cases							
Completed Cases							
Release Decedent							
Cremation Reconciliation							
OCME Referrals							
Reports/Extracts							
User Preferences							
Message Center(32)							
EDRS Menu							
VVESTS Menu							
• Logout							

2.2. SETTING USER PREFERENCES -

Click on the user preferences link in the navigation bar. On the resulting page, you may enter up to three e-mail addresses to receive notifications pertaining to cases in your facility. Also, you may choose the type of notifications you wish to receive.



3. HOW TO CREATE A CASE?

STEP 1.

3.1. BEGIN CREATION

All Red Border Death Certificates shall be created by Medico Legal Death Investigators (MLDIs) or Medical Examiners in the EDRS. To begin creating a case, click on the "create case" link in the left navigation bar.



STEP 2.

All case creations must begin with a search for the decedent in the system. In order to do so, enter all information known about the decedent and click on query on the page resulting from the last step.



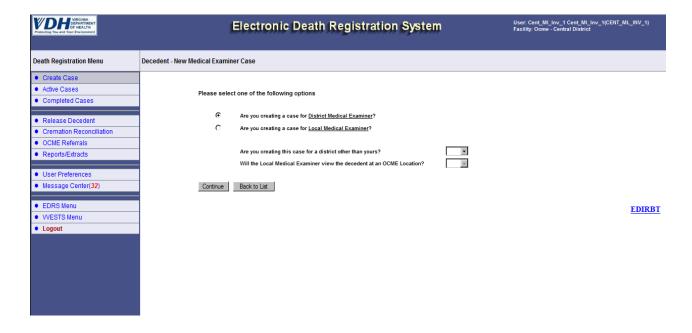
STEP 3.

If no case was found matching your search criteria, click on the new case button at the bottom of the page.



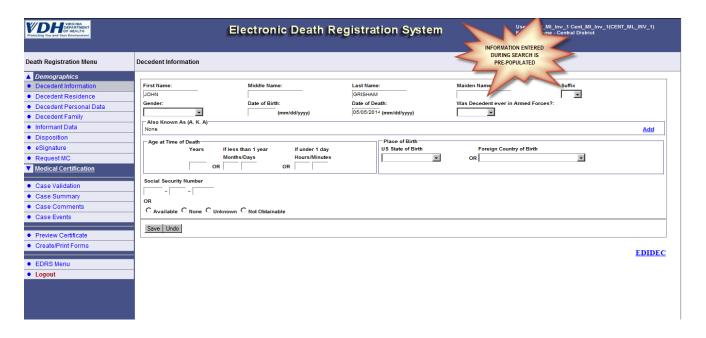
STEP 4.

Select the appropriate options to indicate who you are creating the case for.



STEP 5.

The decedent's demographic information is the responsibility of the Funeral Homes. Enter as much of the decedent's demographic information as you can, at a minimum you must enter the decedent's **First Name**, **Last Name**, **Gender**, **and the Date of Death**. Enter this information and click on the save button at the bottom of the page.



STEP 6.

Click on the MEDICAL CERTIFICATION Link in the left navigation bar. This action will collapse the Demographic Grouping of links and expand the Medical Certification Grouping of links. (See illustration on Right)

NOTE – If you have created the case as a Medical Examiner, and wish to perform medical certification on that case, you must first assign the case to the medical examiner's pool, and then accept it from that pool.



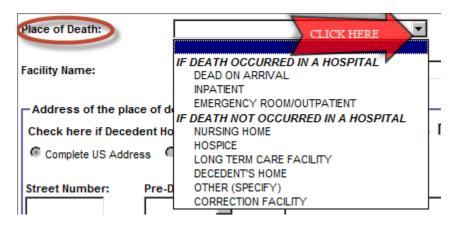
STEP 7.

- Click on the Place of Death link in the left navigation bar. (See Illustration to the right)
- This action will navigate you to the PLACE OF DEATH screen shown below.



3.2. PLACE OF DEATH. -

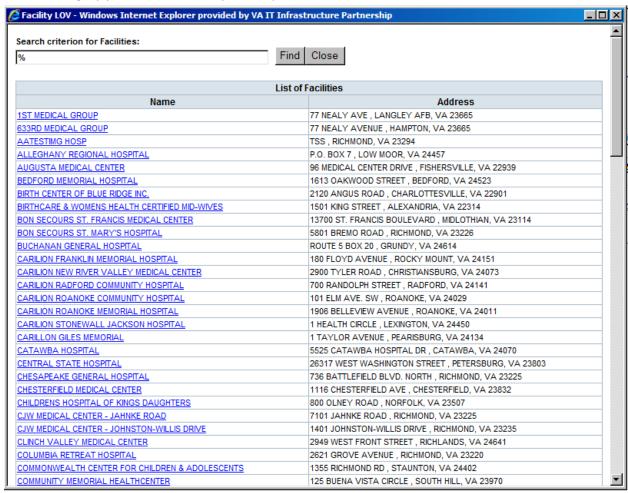
 Begin by selecting the Place of Death from the dropdown list activated by clicking on the little arrow in the gray box.



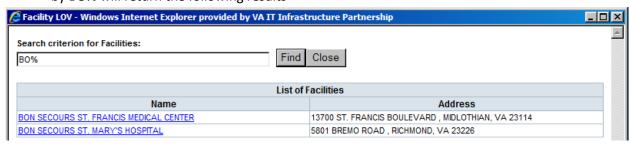
Now, click on the "L" at the end of the Facility of Death field.

Facility Name:

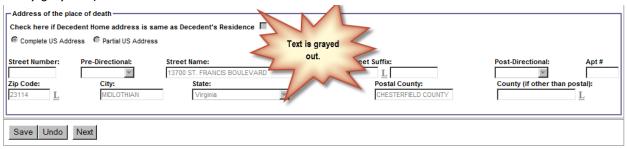
• This will generate a pop-up window with a list of all facilities which match the place of death category you selected in the prior step. (See Illustration below)



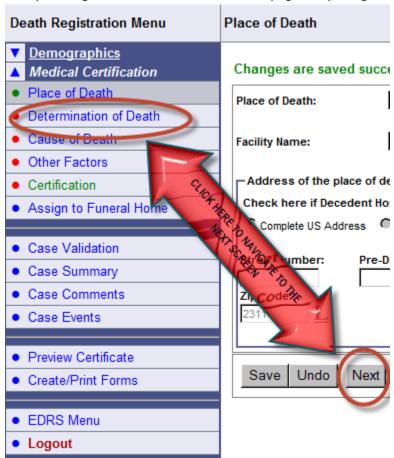
- Click a facility name to select the desired facility
- Wild card search To perform a voluminous search, enter the first few letters of the desired facility name before the % sign in the "FIND" text box and click on find. For example searching by BO% will return the following results



• Once you have selected the desired facility, the corresponding address of the selected facility will be pre-populated in the address fields and these fields will be disabled for editing (denoted by grey text).



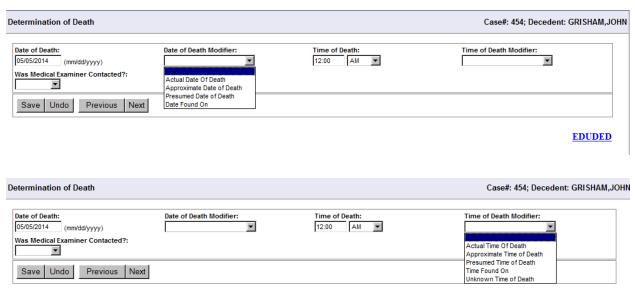
• Click on the save button at the bottom of the screen. Once saved, navigate to the next screen by clicking on NEXT at the bottom of the page or by using the link in the left navigation bar.



STEP 8.

3.3. DETERMINATION OF DEATH

Enter all information in the Determination of Death Screen. This screen will allow you to enter the date and time of death as well as choose whether the date and time of death were - actual, approximate, presumed, or found on. (See illustrations below)



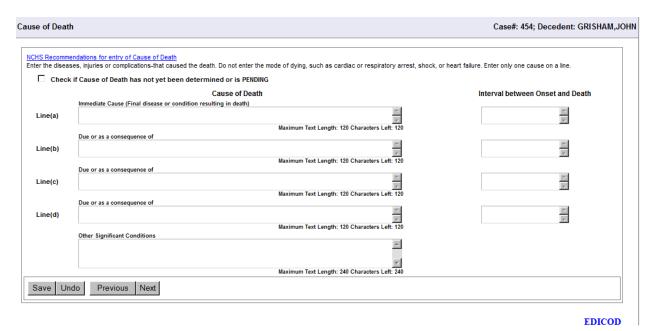
EDUDED

Save the information and navigate to the next screen. This will navigate you to the CAUSE OF DEATH SCREEN

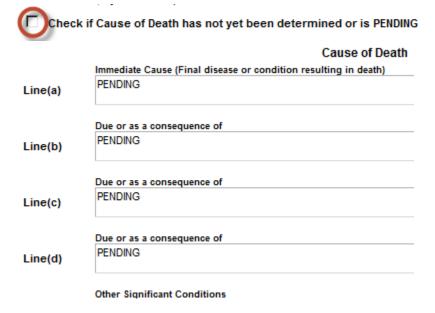
STEP 9

3.4. CAUSE OF DEATH

Below is an illustration of the cause of death screen.

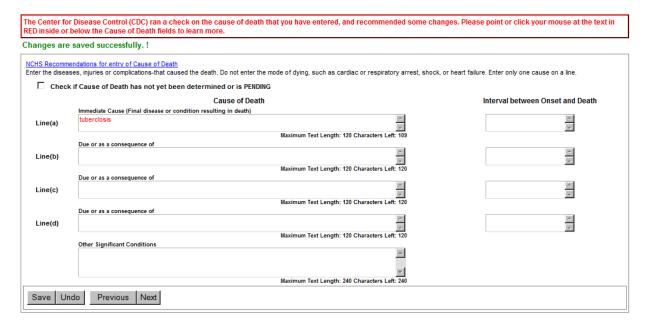


 For pending cause of death, check the pending checkbox. This will populate all cause of death lines with the word "PENDING" unchecking the checkbox will remove the word PENDING.

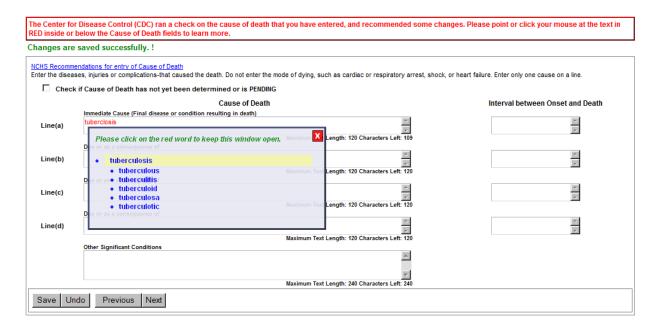


3.4.1. VIEWS (CDC) CAUSE OF DEATH VALIDATION

• Misspelling a cause of death (medical term) will give you a warning in sync with the web service provided by the Center for Disease Control (CDC). (See illustration below, TUBERCULOSIS has been misspelled as T.U.B.E.R.C.L.O.S.I.S)



• Hover your mouse over the misspelled word to get a recommendation from this CDC web service and click on the appropriate recommendation to rectify the mistake.

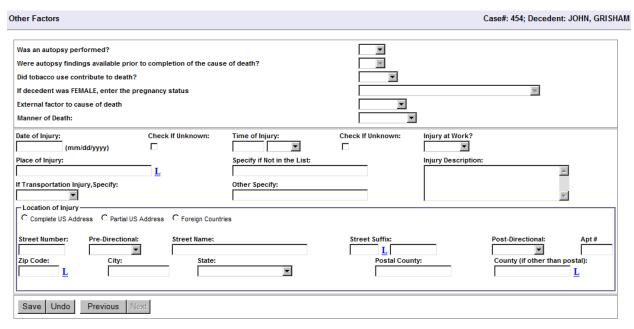


NOTE – MLDIs are not required to enter the Cause of Death, but may do so as directed by their respective sites.

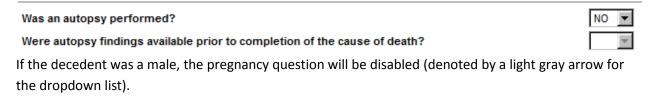
STEP 10

3.4.2. OTHER FACTORS

The next screen would be the other factors screen where you may enter the following information about the decedent – Autopsy information, tobacco usage, pregnancy status, external factors to cause of death and manner of death.

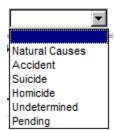


If an autopsy was not performed, the question relating to autopsy findings will be disabled (denoted by a light gray arrow for the dropdown list).

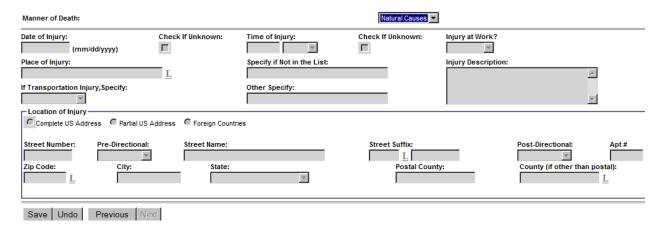


If decedent was FEMALE, enter the pregnancy status

One of the following manners of death must be selected



You must enter the injury information if the Manner of Death is selected as anything other than NATURAL. If you select NATURAL, as the manner of death, the injury fields will be disabled – *denoted by grayed out textboxes. (illustration below)*



Enter and save all pertinent information.

If you are an MLDI creating the case, the NEXT Button will be disabled. If you are a Medical Examiner creating the case or entering information on the OTHER FACTORS screen, the NEXT button will be enabled.

This completes the process of **creating** a case in the System. The next step for an MLDI would be to request medical certification by an ME by assigning the case to the respective pool of MEs

4. REQUESTING MEDICAL CERTIFICATION

- Once a user has created a case in the EDRS, you may, as a MLDI or an ME request Medical Certification by a Medical Examiner / Pathologist / LME / Fellow.
- Begin by clicking on the REQUEST MC link in the left navigation bar. You may need to expand the demographics grouping in case you cannot see the REQUEST MC Link.



The following screen will appear for you to select whether you are transferring the case to an ME or an LME. Also, by clicking the check box, you may indicate that which district this case is being assigned to. These options will be enabled or disabled based on the selection you made in STEP 4 during case creation.

SELECT A MEDICAL EXAMINER

- Check here if the case will be assigned to a district other than yours
 - ASSIGN CASE TO THE MEDICAL EXAMINER'S OFFICE
 - ASSIGN CASE TO A LOCAL MEDICAL EXAMINER (Search for Medical Examiner)

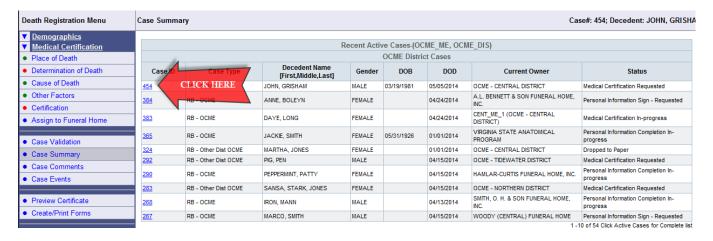
Submit

 Make the appropriate / desired selection Click on the SUBMIT Button to continue requesting medical certification.

5. MEDICAL CERTIFICATION (DIGITAL SIGNATURE)

5.1. ACCEPTING A CASE

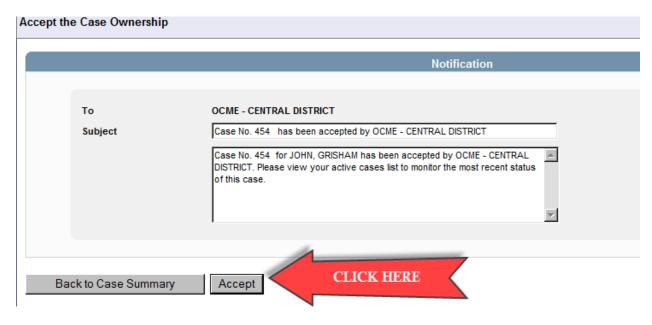
As a medical examiner, prior to completing medical certification, you would need to assume
ownership of the case. Select your desired case from the Active Cases list by clicking on the CASE
ID hyperlink. (illustration below)



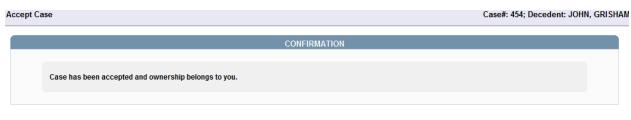
Click on the ACCEPT CASE link at the top of the page.



• On the next page, click on the ACCEPT button at the bottom of the page.



A confirmation message will appear on the next screen.



EDVNT2

Click on the CERTIFICATION link in the left navigation bar. This will display a screen where you may perform digital signatures to the case.



5.2. DIGITAL SIGNATURES

• Below is an illustration of the Digital Signature screen.

Medical Certification	Case#: 454; Decedent: JOHN, GRISHAM
☐ I affirm under the penalty of perjury that I am the authorized signatory whose name will appear on this certificate	
You must enter your secured pin for verification to continue.	
Enter Pin: Re-enter Pin:	
Note: Entering your secure PIN and clicking on Submit will electronically sign this Death Certificate. Your electronic signal	uture is legally binding.
Submit Clear Previous	

EDIMCT

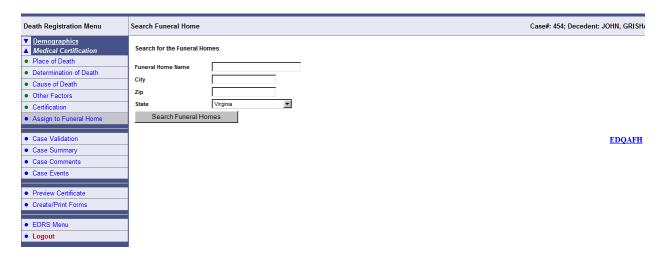
- Check the acknowledgement checkbox, Enter & Re-Enter your PIN, then click on SUBMIT.
- A confirmation message will indicate that the case was successfully certified.

6. ASSIGNING A CASE TO A FUNERAL HOME

- In order to associate a funeral home with a case, begin by clicking on the ASSIGN TO FUNERAL HOME link in the left navigation bar. This link will only be activated once you have selected the case from your ACTIVE CASES list.
- The ASSIGN to funeral home link is grouped under the Medical Certification link in the left navigation bar.



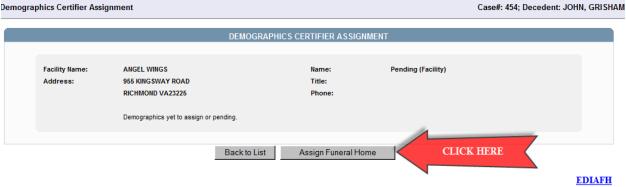
Perform a simple search for the desired funeral home on the screen resulting from the prior step.



 Select the desired funeral home by clicking on the SELECT button corresponding to the funeral home in the list.



• Confirm this association on the next page by clicking on the ASSIGN FUNERAL HOME button



Note:

- Selecting "Assign Funeral Home" will associate the above mentioned Funeral Home to this case.
- Selecting "Transfer to Funeral Home" will associate the above mentioned Funeral Home with this case and also transfer ownership of this case to the Funeral Home mentioned above.
- If you know about both the LME and the Funeral Home working on this case, it is better to associate both entities to the case before transferring the case to one of them. Once either of those entities have certified their portion of the Death Certificate, the case will be automatically be transferred to the other entity by the system. For example Once the Funeral Home has certified the demographic information for the decedent, the case will automatically be transferred to the selected LME.
- Alternately, You may transfer the case either to an LME or to a Funeral Home. Once the receiving party has completed their portion of the death certificate, you will be required to transfer the case to the other party. In a case where you have transferred the case to an LME, you must coordinate the transfer of the case to the Funeral Home with the LME. Either a Medico Legal Investigator or an LME may transfer the case to a Funeral Home.

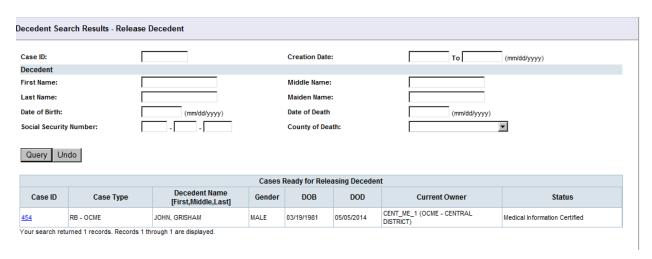
7. RELEASE DECEDENT

This process ensures that the Death Certificate is not released to a funeral home prior to them having taken possession of the decedent's body.

<u>STEP 1 -</u> To begin, click on the RELEASE DECEDENT link in the left navigation bar



<u>STEP 2</u>-The Resulting screen would be a searchable list of cases where the death certificates are awaiting release to a funeral home.



STEP 3-Select your case by clicking on the CASE ID hyperlink.



STEP 4 –

Click on the TRANSFER CASE button to transfer the case to the Funeral home

The name and address of the Funeral Home will be pre-populated based on the Assign to Funeral Home step performed earlier. You may select a different facility by clicking on the blue "L"

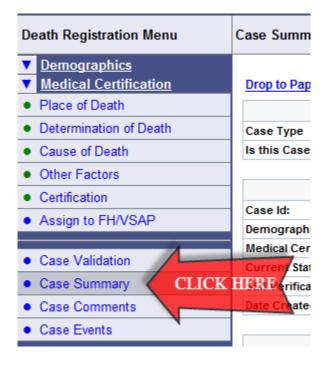


A confirmation message will indicate successful transfer to the funeral home.

8. DROP TO PAPER

Once a case has been certified by the medical examiner and needs to be transferred to the funeral home, you may realize that the funeral home is not a participant in the EDRS. The DROP to PAPER function will enable you to print a copy of the electronically created Death Certificate and provide the certificate to the funeral home.

 STEP 1- To begin, navigate to the desired record's CASE SUMMARY by clicking on the link in the left navigation bar.



• **STEP 2-** Click on the DROP to PAPER link at the top of the page to print the Death Certificate. The EDRS will guide you through two more pages where you would be required to SUBMIT.



9. E-AMENDMENTS

Amendments may be created and requested electronically by the Medical Examiners. If any Medical Examiner wishes their administrative staff to perform this function, they may request that person be given a role to perform E-Amendments.

STEP 1 – begin by clicking on the E-AMENDMENTS link in the left navigation bar.



The resulting screen will be a list of Active amendments. NOTE – if you are a ME trying to sign an amendment created by your office, this amendment would appear in the ACTIVE CASES list for you to select and sign.

STEP 2 - To create a new amendment, click on the NEW link in the left navigation bar



STEP 3 – Perform a search for the desired case.

STEP 4 – From the search results, select the desired case by clicking on the respective certificate number hyperlink. Make sure that the status of the case says, "READY TO AMEND".

Certificate No	Case ID	Case Type	Decedent Name (First,Middle,Last)	Gender	Date of Birth	Date of Death	Status
2000000002	411	Green Border	JOHN, EDWARD, SMITH	MALE	07/29/1950	07/29/2000	E-Amendment(Demographics) Pending with DVR
2010000001	427	Green Border	JOSEPH, JOE, SMITH	MALE	10/21/1999	02/21/2010	E-Amendment(Demographics) Pending with DVR
2012281282	438	Green Border	KIM, LISA, SMITH	FEMALE	01/01/1956	05/16/2012	E-Amendment(Demographics) Pending with DVR
2013000009	399	Green Border	JANE, BERTHA, SMITH	FEMALE		12/05/2013	E-Amendment(Demographics) Pending with DVR
2013015121	575	Green Border	JOHN, S, SMITH	MALE	01/01/1901	07/11/2013	Ready to Amend
2013333006	55	Red Border - OCME	MARY, ANN, SMITH	FEMALE	03/18/1974	06/05/2013	E-Amendment(Medical) Pending
2013333006	55	Red Border - OCME	MARY, ANN, SMITH	FEMALE	03/18/1974	06/05/2013	E-Amendment(Demographics) Pending with DVR
2014000005	388	Green Border	SMITH	FEMALE		05/05/2014	Ready to Amend
2014000070	223	Red Border - OCME	WANDA, SMITH	FEMALE	05/04/1960	04/01/2014	E-Amendment(Demographics) Pending
2014000080	436	Green Border	JOHN, ERIC, SMITH	MALE	03/09/1949	07/02/2014	E-Amendment(Demographics) Pending with DVR

Your search returned 17 records. Records 1 through 10 are displayed.

New Query Next 10 Records=>

EDLEME

• STEP 5 – The resulting page will display editable fields for some basic decedent Demographics and also fields for Medical Information. Make changes to the desired information on the page displayed below.

1.Amend Data			2.Review Data Changes		3.Certify & Submit Am	endment	4.Confirmation	
Decedent Information								
Certificate Numbe		First Name:		Middle Name:	Last Name:	e.	iffix Gender:	
2013 015121		JOHN		S	SMITH		MALE V	
Certificate Type:	▼	Date of Deat 07/11/2013	h:	Date of Death Modi	fier: Time of Death:	Ti	me of Death Modifier:	
Cause of Death		'						
	Immediate Cause (F	Final disease or	condition resulting i	in death)			Interval between Onset and Death	
Line(a)	cardiac arrest				A	1		
	Due or as a consec	quence of			_	_		
Line(b)					· ·			
	Due or as a consec	quence of			-			
Line(c)					·]		
	Due or as a conseq	quence of						
Line(d)					- ·]		
	Other Significant C	onditions						
					<u>~</u>			
Other Factors					_	_		
Was Medical Exam	iner Contacted?	:	Was an autopsy	performed?:	Were autopsy findings available p	prior to completion of	f the cause of death?:	
Did tobacco use co	ontribute to deat	h?:			If decedent was FEMALE, enter the	ne pregnancy status:	v	
External factor to d	cause of death:		Military Death:		Manner of Death:		-	
Primary			₩.		Natural Causes 🔻			
Injury Details								
Date of Injury(mm	/dd/yyyy):	If Unki	nown:	Time of Injury:	If Unknown:	Injury at Work?		
Place of Injury:		L		Specify if Not in the List:		Injury Description	n:	
If Transportation I	niury Specify:	<u> </u>		Other Specify:				
- Transportation i	1			Canon appearing			-	
Location of Injury				,			_	
Address Type:		Street Ad	dress:		Country:		Zip Code:	
~						~	<u>L</u>	
City:			County:		State:	_	Home County:	
Certifier Name: Title: Other Title: Signed Date:								
STMARY_PH_1, STMARY_PH_1 L Orlei Fide: Orlei Fide: Orlei Fide: Orlif Fide: Or								
Address Type: Street Address: Zip Code: City:								
Complete S801 BREMO ROAD 23226 L RICHMOND L County: State: Home County: License No:								
HENRICO COUNTY L VIRGINIA L LICENSE NO: LICENSE NO: LICENSE NO: LICENSE NO: LICENSE NO:						License no.		
Designee Physician Name:								
Address Type: Street Address: Zip Code: City:								
Address Type:		Street Ad	uress:		Zip Code:		City:	
County:			State:		Home County:		=	
L				<u>L</u>		<u>L</u>		
Save Undo Nexi≫								

• Save the above information then click on NEXT.

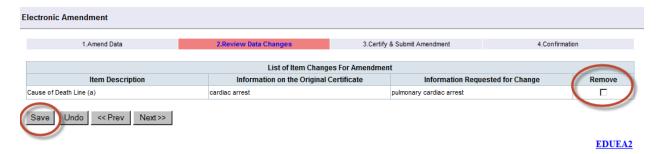
EDIEME

• STEP 6 – The resulting page will show a consolidated list of Amendments that you made. Click on the next button to proceed



EDUEA2

NOTE – The next screen is for you to review the changes made. You do not need to click save. If you would like to remove any of the amendments from this list, check the corresponding remove checkbox, and click on save. (See Illustration below) This will delete the respective amendment from the list and revert the item back to the original value.



- **STEP 7** Perform digital signatures (as shown in section 5.2) on the case and submit the case. A confirmation message will indicate that the amendment was successfully submitted to Vital Records for approval.
- **STEP 8** You may generate a printable amendment report by clicking on the "here link in the success message.



Below is a sample of what the Additional Information report would look like

Print
This report has been digitally signed by Nort_Lme_1 Nort_Lme_1 and has been electronically submitted to Vital Records for approval. Vital Records does not require you to send this report signed via mail. However you may print this report for your own records.

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH DIVISION OF VITAL RECORDS RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

VA-EDRS AMENDMENTS ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REPORT

Case ID: 152 Decedent Name: SUSPICIOUS, CHARACTER Date Created: 10/30/2013

Certificate No: 2013333010

Date of Death:	10/09/2013	

Item Description	Information on the Original Certificate	Information for Amendment
Cause of Death Line (a)	blunt force trauma to head and chest.	blunt force trauma to head, chest, and extremities

Digitally Signed by NORT_LME_1 NORT_LME_1

Address OCME - NORTHERN DISTRICT 10850 PYRAMID PL SUITE 121 MANASSAS VA 20110 MANASSAS, VA - 20110

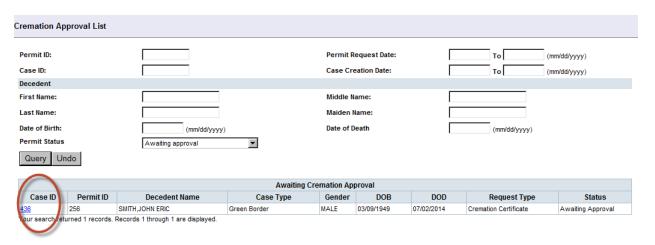
10. CREMATION APPROVAL

A funeral home may request approval of a cremation certificate from the Medical Examiners. These requests shall be consolidated under the CREMATION APPROVALS list.

 STEP 1- To begin, click on the CREMATION APPROVAL Link in the left navigation from the EDRS home page.

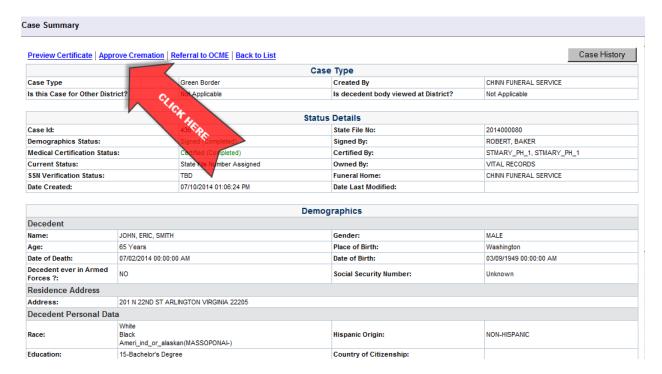


• STEP 2 - The resulting screen will consist of a list of cremation clearance requests. You may search for a desired case if the list is long enough to extend further than one page. Click on the CASE ID of the desired case to continue.

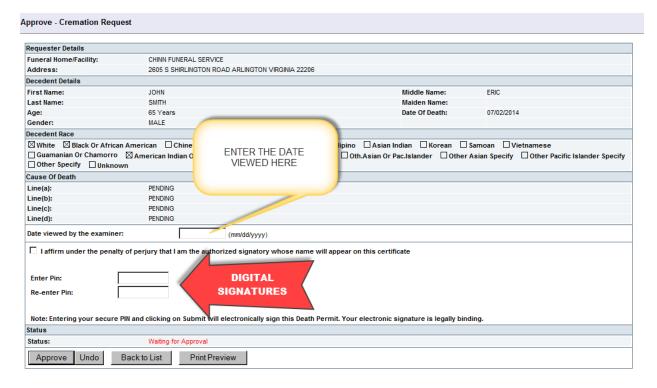


EDLCCA

STEP 3 – On the resulting page, click on the APPROVE CREMATION link at the top of the page.



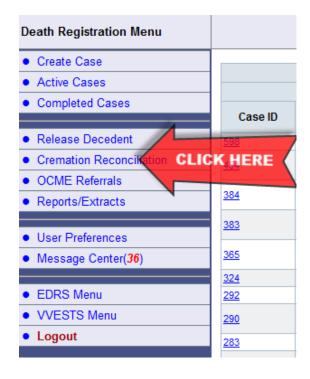
• STEP 4 – Enter the date viewed by the medical examiner, and digitally sign the case (as seen in section 5.2) then click on approve. A success message will indicate successful approval.



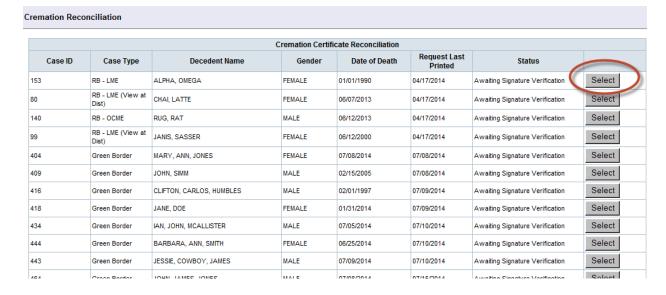
11. CREMATION RECONCILIATION

If a LME has MANUALLY signed a cremation certificate, the OCME will receive a copy of the same. It is the responsibility of the OCME to account for these manual cremation certificates in the system. The CREMATION RECONCILIATION function will fulfill this accounting.

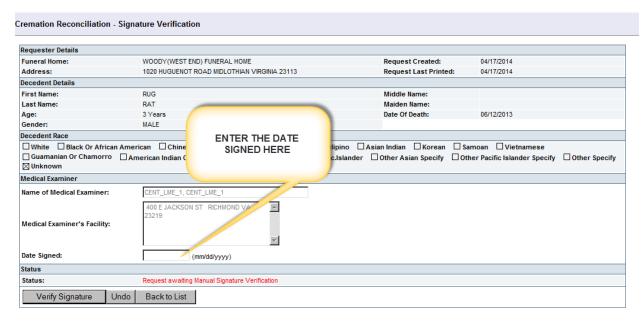
 STEP 1- To begin, click on the CREMATION RECONCILITATION Link in the left navigation from the EDRS home page.



STEP 2 – The resulting page shall display a list of decedents, for which the Funeral Homes may have
printed the cremation certificates for manual signature. Select your desired case from this list by
clicking on the SELECT button corresponding to the case.



• STEP 3 – On the resulting page, enter the date signed, i.e. the date the LME signed the cremation certificate and click on the verify signature button. A success message will indicate successful reconciliation.

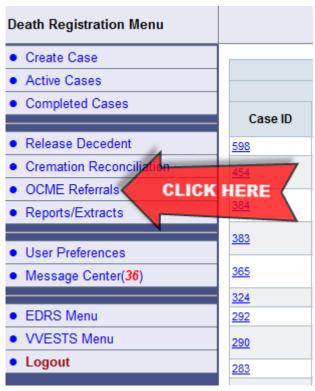


EDUCSV

12.OCME REFERRALS

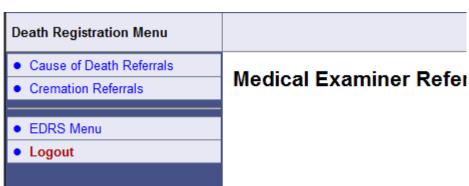
Green border death certificates may get referred to the OCME when a physician attempts to sign the death certificate with a cause of death, which indicates that it may need to be a red border certificate. These cases get compiled under the OCME referrals list.

 STEP 1- To begin, click on the OCME REFERRALS Link in the left navigation from the EDRS home page.

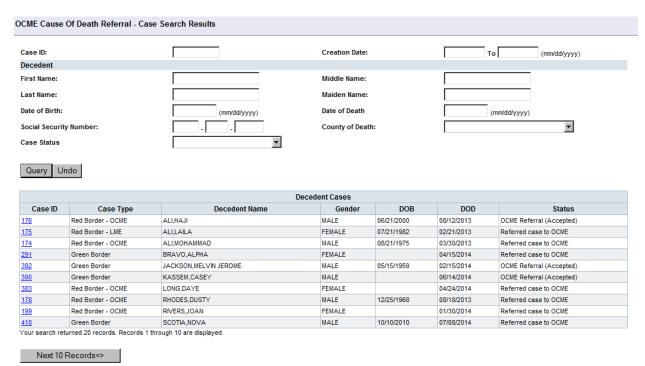


- OCME Referrals may consist of
 - Cause of death referrals
 - Cremation referrals

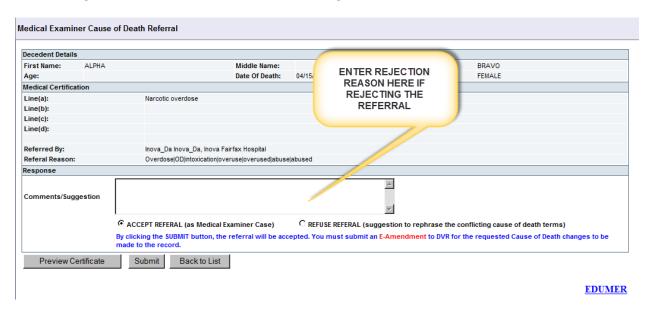
The process to handle either of the above is the same



 STEP 3 – Click on the Cause of Death Referrals link. The resulting page will display a list of cases which the EDRS has referred to the OCME. Select the desired case by clicking on the CASE ID hyperlink corresponding to the case.



• STEP 4 – On the resulting page, enter the reason to reject if rejecting or simply accept the referral by selecting the ACCEPT REFERRAL button and clicking on SUBMIT.



NOTE – To make any changes, an E-amendment would need to be submitted for this case as seen in Section 8.

13. **LOCAL MEDICAL EXAMINERS**

- All Local Medical Examiners enrolled in the EDRS shall have the ability to
 - o Complete Medical Certification (Section 5)
 - Accept a case
 - Complete Medical Certification on a case
 - o Approve Cremation Certificates (Section 10)
 - o Assign a case to a Funeral Home. (Section 6)

If you are an LME, please refer to the appropriate sections to see how to perform each function.